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That both of the foregoing records were made during the month of October seems more than a mere coincidence. The migration of the owls themselves, or the migration of certain birds which they pursue, may account for it. Be that as it may, the result has been the same and these Islands have received their stock of owls as a result of some such circumstance. — WM. ALANSON BRYAN, *Bishop Museum, Honolulu, H. I.*

Note on Psitacula modesta Cabanis. — *Psitacula modesta* Cabanis (Schomburgk, Reisen in British-Guiana, III, 1848, 727) was described from a female taken in British Guiana. This specimen, so far as known to me, has until now remained unique. Count Salvadori in 1891 (Cat. Bds. Brit. Mus., Vol. XX, p. 245, footnote) says: "Graf von Berlepsch, who has recently examined the typical specimen in the Museum of Berlin, has sent me a description of it, which agrees in every respect with the female of *Psittacula sclateri*." Salvin, five years earlier (Ibis, 1886, p. 70) stated, under *Psittacula modesta*: "Graf von Berlepsch is of opinion that *P. sclateri* is referable to this species, *P. modesta* being the older title."

Berlepsch and Hartert, in their recent memoir 'On the Birds of the Orinoco Region' (Nov. Zool., Vol. IX, p. 108, April, 1902) record a male specimen of *P.* '*sclateri*' from "La Union on the Caura River," Venezuela, without further comment. This is the most eastern record of *P. sclateri* I have met with, the previous records being from Peru and Ecuador.

I have before me a male specimen taken by Mr. C. C. Young, on the Saramaca River, Dutch Guiana, May 31, 1899. It bears a striking resemblance to a male specimen of *P. sclateri* (No. 6313, Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.), from the Verreaux Collection, labeled "Rio Javarri" (a cotype?). The Guiana bird differs in being of a lighter, more yellowish green below, particularly on the breast, and in the rump being of a brighter shade of ultramarine. That the two forms are specifically the same there seems no reason for doubt, but it seems probable that the Andean form is separable from the Guiana form, although the differences, judging from the specimens here under notice, are not strongly marked, the two forms being recognizable, respectively, as *Psittacula modesta* and *P. modesta sclateri*. — J. A. ALLEN, *American Museum of Natural History, New York City.*

Breeding of the Evening Grosbeak in Captivity. — In the spring of 1901, I was given three Evening Grosbeaks alive, two females and a male, by Mr. Geo. E. Atkinson. These birds were taken at Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, one young female in 1899, and a pair in February, 1900. These birds are typical *Coccothraustes vespertinus*, and had previously shown no disposition to breed, nor did they till the spring of 1902. In March I noticed that the male was not getting on with the females as well as he had previously, being frequently chased about by them; in April he had subdued them, and very soon showed a decided preference for one and so

persecuted the other that I had to remove her to a separate cage. About this time, or a little earlier, I noted a decided brightening of the beaks of both sexes, and the birds became very noisy, though I noticed no attempt at a song on the male's part.

It was the middle of June before I removed the birds to an outside aviary, and they very soon began to build, though slowly at first, the male leading in the work; the foundation of twigs was finished by June 25, and the walls begun. They used a good deal of excelsior, and the rootlets from an old Catbird's nest. The female took charge of the lining, using dried grass in preference to hair. By the 28th the nest was finished, and on July 1 the first egg was laid, the set of four eggs being completed on the 4th. The eggs were laid in the early morning, and the male roosted at night close beside the nest. I removed the set on the 7th, as I was leaving for a two weeks' absence, and could not attend to the young if hatched. From the beginning of the nest building the male increased his attention to the female, putting freshly shelled sunflower seed in her beak and feeding her at every opportunity; if she were sitting the food was carried to her. Before the egg laying both birds were noisy, uttering their rather harsh note incessantly, but as the female became absorbed in caring for the eggs she joined less in the outcry, and the male too became quieter, though both birds joined in protesting if any unusual object became visible from the cage. They were not greatly disturbed by my entering the cage to feed them, though at first the female always left the nest.

The male in his efforts to fix the female's attention assumed a curious posture, very closely resembling that of a young bird when fed. He began by alighting a little below her, preferably on the ground, throwing his head back and uttering a low, rather harsh call, as a nestling does when expecting food; his wings were partly spread and fluttered very rapidly till the black primaries became an outline, causing the snow white of the secondaries to stand out with vividness; otherwise the bird was motionless, with the tail partly spread.

About the 16th of July three eggs of a second set were noticed in the nest; one had disappeared before my return, and on the 30th, one of the two remaining eggs hatched. The young birds' nakedness was emphasized in contrast with the pure white down patches, particularly that on the head. The second egg did not hatch, and I removed it. I was from the first considerably handicapped in the matter of food; the old birds, as the breeding season commenced, gradually changed their food. Sunflower, their favorite seed, was neglected, and they ate a small amount of lettuce and chickweed, a good many strawberries, a little grated carrot and what insects I could get for them; they refused mockingbird food but ate the yolk of hard-boiled eggs. Meal-worms I was unable to get in any number, but earthworms were plentiful and the birds ate them in quantity. The male kept a sharp lookout for any insect that wandered into the cage; ants' eggs were also eaten. I had to use care in gathering

insects, as the trees in the garden had been sprayed and I feared giving them poisoned food.

The old birds partly masticated the worms and fed them to the young bird in the form of pellets. On the 5th of August the young Grosbeak had its eyes open and seemed to be thriving on the food given it. On the 13th I found it had left the nest, and I replaced it. I fancy from this time the old birds began to neglect it, as they started to moult. On the 15th I noticed that the bird was not being properly cared for and I had to replace it in the nest at night. The first time it resumed its place in the nest it was covered by the female, but other nights it sat on the edge of the nest, the parents roosting beside it. It would not consent to being fed by me, and died on the 16th. The old birds were not at all disconcerted at its loss, and I noticed a lessening of the number of worms consumed, and very soon the normal food of seeds was resumed. Later on the birds removed the lining from the nest and finally threw down the remainder. The young bird's call for food was never loud.

Description of young bird, sixteen days old.— Downy neossoptiles still adhered to the tips of feathers. Above smoky brown bases of feathers lighter, giving the back a mottled appearance; top of head darker; forehead creamy brown; bare space in front of eye (lores) black. Underneath creamy brown; under tail-coverts white; tail (two thirds grown) marked as in adult female; wings black; primaries (partly grown) edged on outer side with creamy white; three outermost quills black; secondaries and greater wing-coverts with broad markings of white, the coverts showing a tinge of yellow. Bill greenish horn; feet flesh-color.

Length 114. mm.; wing 64. mm.; tail 19. mm.

Sex, a male as nearly as could be determined; decomposition was very rapid which, together with the age, made the sexing uncertain. Much of the down was lost in skinning, from the same cause.

Description of eggs.— Ground color a clear blue, having distinct spots, almost blotches, of black distributed sparingly about the middle, leaving the smaller end clear, or almost so, the larger end more or less thinly covered with small spots, blotches, and penciled markings of black, accompanied more sparingly by the same markings in a washed or indistinct brown; a few markings of the same about the middle. Measurements: No. 1, 23 × 16 mm.; No. 2, 24 × 17 mm.; No. 3, 26 × 17 mm.

No. 1 had a very weak shell and was empty or nearly so; No. 2, like No. 1 in markings, both eggs having less of the heavy markings about the middle. No. 3 and 4 are like the second set and probably typical.— J. H. FLEMING, *Toronto, Ontario.*

A Further Note on the Subspecies of Passerculus sandwichensis inhabiting Labrador. — Mr. J. D. Sornborger lent me some time ago for examination three specimens of *Passerculus* from Labrador. Two are from Okak, and one from Hopedale. As they are not sexed they do not serve to amplify the data in regard to the sexual range of size the race shows.